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PATENT

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of ) Attorney Docket No.: E-679  
Glen A. Boucher et al. ) Group Art Unit: 2771  
Serial Code/No.: 08/942,264 ) Examiner: Not Assigned  
Filed: October 1, 1997 ) Date: December 10, 1998

Title: A METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR CHANGING RATING DATA VIA INTERNET OR  
MODEM IN A CARRIER MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

PETITION UNDER 37 CFR 1.181

Assistant Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, DC. 20231

S I R:

The applicants received a filing date of October 1, 1997 with respect to the subject case. The case was filed together with six (6) other cases of related subject matter and three separate filing dates were granted for the seven cases filed.

The applicants respectfully submit that they have reviewed their files and that the Filing date granted for this case, and each of its related cases, should properly be September 30, 1997 and not October 1, 1997.

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OFFICE OF PETITIONS  
DEPUTY A/G PATENT

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## STATEMENT OF FACTS

(1) As to the issue of an incorrect filing date:

The applicants filed the subject case together with six (6) other cases placed in the same box and sent via Express Mail under Waybill No. **EI289769455US**. The application serial numbers of the six (6) companion cases are: 08/942,209; 08/942,260; 08/942,261; 08/942,262; 08/942,263; and, 08/942,265. Of the seven (7) filed cases, three different filing dates have been granted; the filing dates are listed hereinbelow.

Each of the seven (7) cases was separately sealed in a marked envelope and each of the envelopes placed in a common box for shipment to the USPTO. A certificate of Express Mail indicating a date of September 30, 1998 was filed with the application. The certificate of Express Mail was signed by an attorney who personally delivered and sealed the box, after hours, on September 30, 1997 to the U.S. Postal Service. The box was accepted by the clerk who did not return a receipt because of the hour.

A receipt was subsequently received from the U.S. Postal Service that appears to have a garbled "date in."

The seven filed cases received the following filing dates:

<u>Our Case #:</u>	<u>Application No.:</u>	<u>Filing Date Granted:</u>
Case #E-677	08/942,209	October 1, 1997
Case #E-683	08/942,260	September 30, 1997
Case #E-684	08/942,261	October 10, 1997
Case #E-682	08/942,262	September 30, 1997
Case #E-678	08/942,263	September 30, 1997
Case #E-679	08/942,264	October 1, 1997
Case #E-630	08/942,265	October 1, 1997.

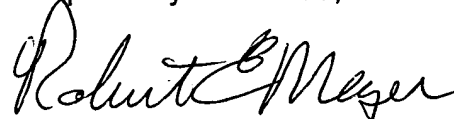
## REMARKS

- (1) The seven cases are related as to their subject matter and the granting of identical filing dates is of importance. A separate petition is being filed for each of the applications granted an October filing date.
- (2) Please charge Deposit Account No. **16-1885** in the amount of \$130.00 for the petition fee as per **37 CFR 1.17(m)(1)**.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or to credit any overpayment to Account No. **16-1885**.

- (3) In view of the above Statement of Facts and Remarks, the applicants respectfully request that the subject application be granted a filing date of September 30, 1997 and that the petition fee be refunded as per **MPEP 506.02**.

Respectfully submitted,



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Agent for Applicant(s)  
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**PITNEY BOWES INC.**

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